

U.S.S.N. 10/525,353

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BALD 0101 PCT

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JAN 29 2007

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. - 5. (cancelled)

¹/₆. (currently amended) A method for esterifying a fatty acid, an oil, or a fat, the method comprising:

introducing a liquid raw material to a dispersion machine, said liquid raw material selected from the group consisting of fatty acids, oils, fats, and combinations thereof, said liquid raw material further comprising a catalyst selected from the group consisting of an acid catalyst and a base catalyst; and

dispersing a short chain alcohol in said liquid raw material to form a dispersion, said dispersion having a globule size between about ~~[[3]]~~ 1 μ m and 50 μ m.

²/₇. (previously presented) The method of claim 6, wherein said short chain alcohol is methyl alcohol.

³/₈. (previously presented) The method of claim ¹/₆, wherein said short chain alcohol is selected from the group consisting of methyl alcohol, ethyl alcohol, propyl alcohol, butyl alcohol, pentyl alcohol, and combinations thereof.

⁴/₉. (previously presented) The method of claim ¹/₆, wherein said dispersion machine comprises a multistage, high speed dispersion machine.

⁵/₁₀. (previously presented) The method of claim ¹/₆, wherein said globule size is between about 5 μ m and 15 μ m.

⁶/₁₁. (previously presented) The method of claim ¹/₆, wherein said globule size is between about 5 μ m and 50 μ m.

⁷/₁₂. (currently amended) The method of claim ¹/₆, wherein said globule size is between about ~~[[3]]~~ 1 μ m and 15 μ m.

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~~13.~~ (currently amended) A method for transesterifying a fatty acid, an oil, or a fat, the method comprising:

introducing a liquid raw material to a dispersion machine, said liquid raw material selected from the group consisting of fatty acids, oils, fats, and combinations thereof, said liquid raw material further comprising a catalyst selected from the group consisting of an acid catalyst and a base catalyst; and

dispersing a short chain alcohol in said liquid raw material to form a dispersion, said dispersion having a globule size between about ~~[[3]]~~ 1 μm and 50 μm .

⁹
~~14.~~ (previously presented) The method of claim ⁸~~13~~, wherein said short chain alcohol is methyl alcohol.

¹⁰
~~15.~~ (previously presented) The method of claim ⁸~~13~~, wherein said short chain alcohol is selected from the group consisting of methyl alcohol, ethyl alcohol, propyl alcohol, butyl alcohol, pentyl alcohol, and combinations thereof.

¹¹
~~16.~~ (previously presented) The method of claim ⁸~~13~~, wherein said dispersion machine comprises a multistage, high speed dispersion machine.

¹²
~~17.~~ (previously presented) The method of claim ⁸~~13~~, wherein said globule size is between about 5 μm and 15 μm .

¹³
~~18.~~ (previously presented) The method of claim ⁸~~13~~, wherein said globule size is between about 5 μm and 50 μm .

¹⁴
~~19.~~ (currently amended) The method of claim ⁸~~13~~, wherein said globule size is between about ~~[[3]]~~ 1 μm and 15 μm .